



ALABAMA GEOLOGIST

FALL 2004 EDITION

LICENSE RENEWAL

In order for a Professional Geologist to maintain his or her license in good standing, a license must be renewed every two years. Currently there are 570 Professional Geologists licensed to practice in the State of Alabama. In addition to this number, 391 licenses are currently subject to renewal. If a renewal application is not filed with the Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists, then the Professional Geologist's license will expire.

Licenses are issued for a two-year period and should be renewed prior to the expiration date listed on the license. As a reminder, the Board mails a renewal form to the licensee's mailing address of record approximately 90 days prior to the license expiration date. The form is sent as a reminder, however, non-receipt of the form does not relieve the licensee from the responsibility of renewing the license. Changes in a licensee's address can cause renewal notices to be returned to the Board undelivered.

Licenses expire on a biennial basis. An application for renewal must be filed with the Board and be accompanied by the renewal fee.

Why renew? The reasons are obvious and very important.

- If you don't renew on time, the expired license may be restored only after application and payment of the prescribed restoration fee, provided the renewal applicant meets all other provisions established by the Board. The Board currently can impose a \$100 late fee for renewals which are not submitted by the expiration date.
- It is unlawful for any geologist to affix his or her signature to or to stamp or seal any plans, plats, reports or other documents as defined by the Board after the license of the person has expired or has been suspended or revoked. If a license is expired, it is a Class B misdemeanor if a person attempts to use an expired or revoked license.

When is it time to renew?

- Licensed Professional Geologists will be mailed an application for renewal of registration every two years. The renewal application must be signed and returned to the Board office with the renewal fee of \$150.00 within 90 days of receipt.

Is there a penalty for late filing of the renewal?

- A \$100.00 late fee will be imposed if the renewal application is not submitted within ninety (90) days of the license expiration date.

Where can I get a copy of the renewal application?

- An application will be mailed to you and an application for renewal is located on the website at www.algeobd.state.al.us. With the renewal form is also the form for documenting the required 30 professional development hours for continuing education.

The public practice of Geology in Alabama is a vital activity for the public's safety and welfare and the protection of the state's environment and natural resources. Be sure to maintain this privilege by renewing your license on time!

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UPCOMING SEMINAR

The Alabama Geological Society (AGS) is planning a one-day seminar that will focus on information and data-gathering equipment for geologists. The AGS currently has commitments from several individuals. Roger Wheeler of Hayes Instrument Co. will talk about GPS units/compasses, range finders, etc. Kevin Labbe of SON Tech. will talk about water quality instruments, and Michael Felly of YSI will show instruments for gathering flow data. Scott Barnhart of Pine Environmental will present organic vapor analysis instruments (PID, FID, etc.), and Robert Perry of MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc. will provide information about their ground penetrating radar (GPR). Tom Kallsen from the University of Alabama's Geography Department and John Matthews of Southern Resources Mapping Co. will talk about topographic maps and aerial photographs. In addition, Vic Stricklin and Bob Kidd of the USGS, and Marlon Cook, Henry Moore and Dan Irvin of the Geological Survey of Alabama will be on hand to discuss websites and on going projects involving data dissemination. The seminar will be Monday, September 20, from 8:00 am to 5:00pm at the Guest Lodge on McFarland Blvd. in Tuscaloosa. Registration fee for AGS members is \$25.00 and for non-members is \$45.00. Contact Lewis Dean to register at ldean@gas.state.al.us or by phone at (205) 247-3548

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

During the August 19th, 2004 Board meeting, new officers were elected for the upcoming year. Mark Tanner has been elected as Chairman of the Board. The Vice-Chairman role will be filled by Bob Carr. Dorothy Malaier remains as Secretary/Treasurer of the Board for the next year. As always, please contact any of the Board members to offer advice, ask questions, or provide input on the role of the Licensed Professional Geologists in Alabama.

UPCOMING CONVENTION

The 54th Annual Convention of the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies will be hosted by the South Texas Geological Society. The 2004 convention will be held in San Antonio, the City of Missions, on October 10-12, 2004. Joining this year's presentation is the Gulf Coast Section of SEPM, in their 51st Annual Meeting. Pre-registration will continue through September 15, 2004. For additional information and to register on-line simply go to www.stgs.org and click the GCAGS 2004 Annual Convention button.

UPCOMING WORKSHOP

The Eastern Gulf Coast Region of the Petroleum Technology Transfer Council (PTTC) will conduct a Technology Workshop on Thursday, September 2, 2004. The Workshop is titled, "Reservoir Modeling and Simulation: North Blowhorn Creek Field, Vocation Field, Appleton Field and Womack Hill Field" and will be held at the Capital Club, Capital Towers in Jackson, Mississippi. The purpose of the workshop is to transfer recent research advances in reservoir modeling and simulation to producers operating in the Eastern Gulf Region to facilitate production in the area.

Those interested in attending should contact Bennett Bearden in the Department of Geology at the University of Alabama, Telephone: (205)348-1880, Facsimile: (205) 348-0818, Email: bbearden@wgs.geo.ua.edu. You may also register on-line at: <http://egrpttc.geo.ua.edu>. There is a \$25 registration fee to attend (payable by check only the day of the meeting).

JOINT ALABAMA, GEORGIA, & TENNESSEE AIPG FIELD TRIP

The Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee sections of the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) worked jointly to conduct a field trip to the Ocoee Gorge and Ducktown on April 24th. The idea for this trip was originally conceived in discussions between Terry Rippstein, AL Section, Ron Wallace, GA Section, and Sam Vinson, TN Section at the AIPG National Meeting in Glenwood Springs, CO. The trip was deemed a success by all who attended,

consisting of approximately 25 people, which were fairly evenly divided among the three participating states. The field trip included three stops in the Gorge and four stops in the former Copperhill Mining District of Ducktown. The Ocoee portion of the outing was led by Dan Hurst of AMEC Earth & Environmental, Inc., Nashville, TN with assistance from Michael Neton of Canyon Springs, LLC, Chattanooga, TN. Mr. Hurst was the Lead Geologist during a

recent geotechnical investigation for the proposed realignment of US Highway 64 through the Gorge. The Ducktown portion was led by Mr. Ken Faulk of Barge, Waggoner, Sumner & Cannon, Inc. (BWSC), Nashville, TN. BWSC has been leading the remediation effort of the North Potato Creek Area of the Copperhill District. A good amount of interest was expressed in planning another joint field trip. It is hoped that this can become an annual event.

UPCOMING EVENT-AIPG ANNUAL MEETING

The American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) will hold its 41st Annual Meeting October 3-6, 2004. This year's meeting is hosted by the Northeast Section of AIPG. The Gideon Putnam Hotel and Sarasota Springs, New York will provide the venue for the meeting. Saratoga Springs counts over 1,000 buildings on the National Historic Register. This year's choice of field

trips included the famous garnet and iron-ilmenite deposits of the Adirondacks, the New York City water tunnel, slate and marble quarries of New York and Vermont, Howe Caverns, stromatolites at the Petrified Gardens, geysers of Saratoga Springs, revolutionary war battlefield of Saratoga, and wine-tasting tour of New York vineyards.

Licensed Geologists and environ-

mental professionals seeking to fulfill continuing education requirements can choose among short courses dealing with recirculating well technology, vapor intrusion to buildings environmental geophysics, professional ethics and monitored natural attenuation. The form for registration is available on AIPG's website at:

<http://www.aipg.org>

ASBOG NEWS

The Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) recently circulated a "Nationwide Geological Task Analysis Questionnaire" to professional geologists selected by individual State Boards of Licensure or Registration. This questionnaire was circulated as part of a nationwide study of the geology professional designed to maximize the relevance of the questions on the national licensing examinations to reflect the important tasks performed by professional geologists. The purpose of the questionnaire was to determine what licensed/registered geologists and geoscientists do in their professional activities. The questionnaire surveyed the following tasks for the Board's use in constructing the examination.

- A. General Geology: Field Geology, Geophysics, Imagery, Modeling, and Graphical Methods
- B. Mineralogy, Petrology, and Petrography
- C. Sedimentology, Stratigraphy, and Paleontology
- D. Quaternary Geology, Geomorphology, and Surficial Processes
- E. Structure, Tectonics, and Seismology
- F. Hydrogeology and Environmental Geochemistry
- G. Engineering Geology
- H. Economic Geology and Energy Resources

The survey also included a section on Ethics Issues. This section was not intended for the use in constructing the examination but rather intended to provide individual state boards with guidance in the preparation of codes of ethics for their licensees.

SOUTHEASTERN GSA MEETING TO BE HELD IN BILOXI, MS

The 2005 meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Geological Society of America will be held in Biloxi, MS in March 2005. This meeting will be the 54th annual meeting of the Southeastern Section of the GSA. The meeting will consist of symposia and theme sessions,

poster sessions and field trips.

This event will provide Alabama Licensed Professional Geologists with an opportunity for earning continuing education credits depending on the subject matter and number of sessions attended.

For more information on this meeting, a Preliminary Announcement for the meeting is posted on the web at:

www.usm.edu/geology/SEGSA2005.htm



ALABAMA BOARD OF
LICENSURE FOR
PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS

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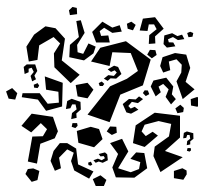
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WE'RE ON THE WEB

www.algeobd.state.al.us



IS YOUR LICENSE EXPIRED?

If your license has expired, you can obtain a renewal notice on the Board's website:

www.algeobd.state.al.us

ALABAMA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY EVENTS PROVIDE CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Alabama Geological Society's mission is "to promote geology as a profession and as a science; to encourage friendship and cooperation among members and branches of the profession; to accumulate and make available geologic knowledge; and to encourage public appreciation of the utility and application of geologic science". Two annual activities of the AGS provide continuing education opportunities for Licensed Professional Geologists.

Annual events open to members of the Alabama Geological Society are the Annual Field Trip, which is usually held in the fall and the Awards Banquet and Slide Show, which is in April.

The Annual Field Trip features two-day excursions to examine and learn about key aspects of the geology of Alabama. This field trip may provide participants up to 15 Professional Development Hours toward continuing education requirements associated with the professional geologist licensing requirements in Alabama. This year's field trip will be along the Alabama Gulf Coast.

The Society's Annual Awards Banquet and Slide Show is a dinner event featuring presentations by members and guests of the Alabama Geological Society who discuss their travels around the world. The meeting also includes a presentation of scholarships to students. Depending upon

the actual content of the presentations, this meeting may also provide continuing education credits.

A date for this event has not been finalized, for more information on Society membership and activities, please contact:

Dan Irvin or

Lewis Dean at (205) 349-2852.

You may reach the AGS at:

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